

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 10589 241421Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 MC-02 ACDA-07 OMB-01
/073 W

-----075329 241431Z /43

R 241333Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6567
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EG QA TC SA MMOL MASS
SUBJECT: PRESS BALLYHOO FOR ARAB ARMS PRODUCTION

REF: CAIRO 10493

1. MAIN STORY JUNE 24 AHAM WAS EXCLUSIVE REPORT THAT ARAB INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION (AIO) HAS BEGUN PRODUCTION OF ANTI-TANK MISSILES, FIGHTERS, AND HELICOPTERS. ACCORDING TO REPORT, PRINCIPAL ITEMS ABOUT TO BE PRODUCED IS ANTI-TANK WEAPON (OF UNDISCLOSED NOMENCLATURE) "NOT PREVIOUSLY USED" BY ARABS. STORY NOTES AIO SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENTS WITH FRENCH, BRITISH AND US MILITARY EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS, AND CLAIMS THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH COMPANIES PRODUCING FIGHTER PLANES AND HELICOPTERS ARE IN FINAL STAGES WITH "NUMBER" OF PRODUCTION CONTRACTS TO BE SIGNED IN COMING FEW MONTHS.

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2. AIO MEMBERS, AHAM SAYS, WILL BE CHIEF RECIPIENTS OF WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT PRODUCTION. SURPLUS WILL BE EXPORTED TO OTHER COUNTRIES AND WORLD ARMS MARKET. PAKISTAN REPORTEDLY HAS REQUESTED BECOME AIO CUSTOMER. (THIS IS ONLY NEW ELEMENT IN ENTIRE REPORT.)

3. AS REPORT NOTES, JEEP PRODUCTION, IN COOPERATION WITH AMC (REFTEL), IS ONLY ELEMENT OF GRANDIOSE AIO EXPECTATIONS THAT ACTUALLY GETTING OFF THE GROUND. CONVENTIONAL CAIRO WISDOM IS THAT AIO HAS SLIM CHANCE AT BEST OF EVER ACTUALLY PRODUCING TECHNOLOGICALLY SOPHISTICATED MAJOR END ITEMS SUCH AS FIGHTER AIRCRAFT. UNCLEAR WHY SUCH PROMINENT ATTENTION GIVEN TO INCHOATE AIO AT THIS TIME OTHER THAN AS PERIODIC REMINDER OF EGYPTIAN EFFORT TO MAINTAIN HIGH STATE OF MILITARY READINESS. IN ABSENCE SOLID PEG, SUCH AS CONTRACT SIGNATURE, ON WHICH TO HANG PRESENT STORY ASSUME THIS WAS AHRAM INITIATIVE BUILT ON EXPECTATION THAT US JEEPS WILL BE COMMON SIGHT ON EGYPTIAN ROADS BEFORE LONG.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ARMS PRODUCTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770623/aaaaatvm.tel
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TAGS: MMOL, MASS, EG, QA, TC, SA
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